NEWS

# Unitarian Society rummage sale returns on Town Day — with a mission beyond bargains

RACHEL WHITEHOUSE | CORRESPONDENT

June 3, 2025 . 3:00 PM — 3 min read

The 'Not Your Average Rummage Sale' is back on June 7. WINCHESTER NEWS STAFF PHOTO/RACHEL WHITEHOUSE

The Winchester Unitarian Society (WUS) is hosting its much-love
Your Average Rummage Sale" once again this year, offering more

Subscribe

great finds at low prices — it's also a real-world example of sustainability in action.

Held at 478 Main St., admission is $2 and hours are Saturday, June 7, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday, June 8, from 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. For those eager to snag the best items, the Early Bird Sale is Saturday, June 7, from 8-9 a.m. with a $15 admission fee.

While bargain hunters will enjoy a wide variety of jewelry, clothing, home goods, kids toys and games, electronics, art, vintage, and more, what sets this rummage sale apart is what happens after the crowds leave.

Subscribe

Rummage Sale Items in 2023. WINCHESTER NEWS STAFF PHOTO/RACHEL WHITEHOUSE

"This is not a 'take what you want and toss the rest' kind of event," said Fritzie Nace, rummage sale co-chair. "We're committed to keepi much as possible out of the landfill. That's what makes it truly 'N

Subscribe

Average' — we care about the afterlife of every item that comes through our doors."

Volunteers at WUS spend weeks preparing, sorting, pricing, and — perhaps most importantly — planning what to do with items that don't sell. Rather than leaving unsold goods to be trashed, the WUS "Remains Team" works with a network of charities and organizations that ensure items get a second (or even third) life.

"Every night, we carefully sort the remaining items into dozens of categories for donation or recycling," said Sarah Milt, co-chair of the Remains Team. "Nothing is random. We have a plan for everything — whether Christmas décor donated to the Jenks Center, pet supplies handed off to a local animal advocate, or winter boots to kids in Ukraine. Even our scrap metal gets sold!"

Donate today!

Books are picked up by More Than Words, a nonprofit that helps youth in foster care, facing homelessness, or involved in the court system build job skills and confidence by running a bookstore. Home decor, kitchen goods and vintage items are taken by The Restoration Project, for its thrift store at 334 Pleasant St., Belmont. Winter coats and boots go to Winchester's own Protect Global Children which redistributes donated goods to children globally with urgent humanitarian relief needs.

A large donation to Savers ensures that hundreds of items — including clothing, linens, household items, toys, and small electronics — go to a resale store that supports the Epilepsy Foundation and diverts millions of pounds of waste from landfills every year.

Subscribe

Even damaged textiles find a home: about 50 trash bags full are d
Bay State Textiles, which turns torn clothing, stained linens, and worn-out

shoes into recycled material.

“If it has fabric, and we can’t donate it, we recycle it,” said Milt.

More items from the 2023 rummage sale. WINCHESTER NEWS STAFF PHOTO/RACHEL WHITEHO

Subscribe

Throughout the sale, volunteers make regular trips to the Winchester Transfer Station to drop off recyclables and Swap Shop treasures, and only a tiny portion of the overall haul ends up as trash.

“We approach this sale as a form of environmental stewardship,” Nace continued. “It’s more than just raising money, although that’s obviously our primary goal. It’s about doing right by the planet and making sure donated goods can still serve a purpose.”

Whether you come for the bargains, the mission, or the joy of community, one thing is certain: this is not your average rummage sale. It’s better.

For more info and to see donation guidelines, visit the WUS web site or email the Rummage team at wusrummage@gmail.com.

*Winchester News is a non-profit organization supported by our community. If you appreciate having local Winchester news, please donate to support our work, and subscribe to our free weekly newsletter.*

## Related

NEWS

NEWS

Subscribe

## Winchester School Committee candidates bring contrasting backgrounds to Thursday forum

Two candidates for Winchester's School Committee will face voters at a forum as the district navigates a new literacy curriculum, budget pressures and questions about student mental health. Heather von Mering and John Bellaire are competing for an open seat on the School Committee, which oversees a budget von

WILL DOWD | STAFF WRITER
March 4, 2026

## Rep. Michael Day helps House colleagues pass sweeping energy affordability bill

The following was submitted by the Office of Rep. Michael S. Day: Rep. Michael S. Day and his colleagues in the House of Representatives recently passed energy affordability legislation that would result in over $9 billion in savings for utility ratepayers over the next 10 years. The bill maintains critical

March 4, 2026

NEWS

## Winchester gun owners face new training rules starting April 2

Public safety data How Winchester compares on firearms licenses in comparable Massachusetts communities Active licenses as of Jan. 25, 2025 — Source: Massachusetts Criminal History Systems Board License to carry firearms Firearms identification card Winchester and Marblehead are the focus communities. Peers selected based on comparable population size, demographics and suburban

WILL DOWD | STAFF WRITER
March 4, 2026

NEWS

## Sen. Jason Lewis, Mass. Senate strengthen fair housing protections for renters, buyers

The following was submitted by the Office of Sen. Jason Lewis: State Sen. Jason Lewis joined his colleagues in the Massachusetts Senate to pass legislation that protects residents from discrimination in the housing market as the Trump administration abandons its enforcement of the federal Fair Housing Act. Illegal discrimination continues

March 3, 2026

Subscribe

# Latest

NEWS

## Winchester School Committee candidates bring contrasting backgrounds to Thursday forum

Two candidates for Winchester's School Committee will face voters at a forum as the district navigates a new literacy curriculum, budget pressures and questions about student mental health. Heather von Mering and John Bellaire are competing for an open seat on the School Committee, which oversees a budget von

WILL DOWD | STAFF WRITER

March 4, 2026

FEATURES

## 'Chicago: Teen Edition' dances onto the Winchester High School stage

By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester High School presents "Chicago: Teen Edition," a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. Set in the 1920s, this iconic production is sure to leave the audience wanting more. Performances will

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

March 4, 2026

EVENTS

## Ripley Chapel in Winchester presents 'Syldason: You Are

NEWS

## Rep. Michael Day he colleagues pass sweeping energy

Subscribe

## Welcome Here’

The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

March 4, 2026

## affordability bill

The following was submitted by the Office of Rep. Michael S. Day: Rep. Michael S. Day and his colleagues in the House of Representatives recently passed energy affordability legislation that would result in over $9 billion in savings for utility ratepayers over the next 10 years. The bill maintains critical

March 4, 2026

WINCHESTER NEWS
A TRUSTED AND RELIABLE SOURCE OF LOCAL NEWS

Subscribe to Winchester News

© 2026 Winchester News Group, Inc. Copying and sharing with permission for non-commercial use only.

Subscribe